GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:933
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2016
Air Superiority
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether falling end strength and problematic force structure, combined with its troubled acquisition and development programme threaten India's air superiority over rapidly modernizing, China and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to strengthen its combat capabilities with fourth generation plus western fighters, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Air Force is stymied by serious constraints on India's defence budget; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (c): The Indian Air Force (IAF) is suitably equipped, trained and organized to cater for the threat environment that exists and is ready to meet the role assigned to it. Operational preparedness of IAF is reviewed from time to time based on the threat perception. Further, augmentation of capabilities of IAF including its modernization and acquisition is a dynamic and continuous process.

(d) & (e): The budget allocation for the three Services including IAF is made keeping in view the projections made by them and capabilities likely to be developed / procured during the financial year. Additional allotment is also made for important schemes / projects as and when required.
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